

Re: Docket number 99D-0557

July 9, 1999

To whom it may concern:

I respectfully offer my most ^{0763 '99 JUL 16 AM 102} vigorous opposition to the practice or trial of xenotransplantation for the following reasons:

The threat of inter-species virus transmission remains very real. Recipients of transplants from non-humans would require lifelong monitoring of every aspect of their lives, from the most casual social contact to the most intimate sexual contact. This unavoidable monitoring would be necessary in order to detect the first sign of any transplant-related illness, which could develop into epidemic proportions. One might question the quality of life allowed the recipient under such conditions. One might also question the expenditure of funds on such specialized, experimental care, when so many are in need of the most basic health care.

It is my opinion that the United States should follow the lead of Europe. In January 1999, the Council of Europe, representing 40 European nations, recommended a world-wide ban on xenotransplantation. There are safer, more humane alternatives to xenotransplantation that are proven effective: aggressive promotion of preventive medicine and human organ donation.

Finally, I shudder to think of the hideous moral implications of non-human animals becoming a source of spare parts for human beings. When living, sentient beings (either created by natural means or manufactured for this purpose by technological means) are used as a source of spare parts, it is my opinion that the human race will have fallen to the depths of a second Holocaust.

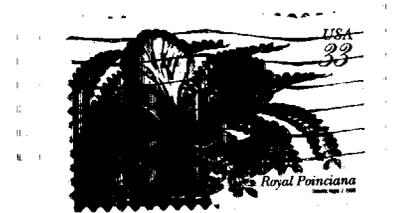
I most vigorously oppose xenotransplantation.

C194

Respectfully, Madonna Niles, 712 W. Grace St., Chicago, IL 60613

99D-0557

Ms. Madonna Niles
712 W. Grace St.
Chicago, IL 60613-4119



Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Docket No. 99D-0557

20857/0001

